

STATE OF NEW YORK

LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

BUFFALO, N.Y., NOVEMBER 20, 2008

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I HEREBY CERTIFY, *That at the 23rd Session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the Legislative Chambers, in the City of Buffalo, on the Twentieth day of November, 2008 A.D., a Resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:*

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY LEGISLATORS IANNELLO, REYNOLDS & WHYTE

WHEREAS, national health organizations, environmental agencies, and physical fitness activists believe increased bicycling and walking to be of national interest not only for health purposes, but also as a mode of transportation; and

WHEREAS, the development of transportation, environmental and public health policies promoting bicycling and walking as a means of transportation should be the concern of local, county, and state governments; and

WHEREAS, persons with disabilities, pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders should be able to safely move along and across a 'complete street;' and

WHEREAS, complete streets are defined as facilities that are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users comprehensive across the life span for both recreational and transportation; and

WHEREAS, a complete street is one that has improved safety conditions that encourages users to reduce the number of motor vehicle miles traveled whenever possible through increased use of bicycling or walking trips; and

WHEREAS, the County of Erie is in concert with this philosophy for the safety, health and environmental integrity of all residents, visitors and the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, school aged youth ages 5 to 17 years old (2006), represents an astonishing 29.4% of the total percentage of bicyclists and 19.8% of pedestrians both injured and killed in New York State; and

WHEREAS, New York State should designate its percentage of safety dollars to be commensurate with the percentage of traffic related deaths that are pedestrians and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, increased bicycling and walking trips will not only help to reduce the carbon footprint in America, but its intention is also to provide exercise to our children and adults as recent surveys have stated that as many as 65% of the US population is overweight; and

WHEREAS, bicycle commuters save annually on average \$1,825 in auto related costs, carbon emissions by 128 pounds, conserve 145 gallons of gasoline and avoid 50 hours of gridlock traffic; and

ATTEST

ROBERT M. GRABER
Clerk of the Legislature of Erie County

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I HEREBY CERTIFY, *That at the 23rd Session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the Legislative Chambers, in the City of Buffalo, on the Twentieth day of November, 2008 A.D., a Resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:*

WHEREAS, we are a nation of over 300 million people with an expected number of 365 million people by 2030, and 465 million by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of that growth is occurring in urban areas where there are significant limitations on accommodating the ever increasing motor vehicle travel; and

WHEREAS, over 200 cities in the United States, representing 35 million people, have committed to action plans to increase bicycling and walking as a mode of transportation utilizing health and quality of life as a performance measure; and

WHEREAS, a national network of interconnected urban and rural bikeways can provide valuable community benefits, including low cost recreation and alternative transportation options for people of all ages; and

WHEREAS, such networking designs must include safe and expanded areas for bicycles and pedestrians and moreover this must begin on the local level of government policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that Erie County join in concert with the 200 US cities to implement a bicycle and pedestrian friendly action plan to achieve the intended goals of good health, improved safety, lessen the carbon imprint while increasing bicycling and walking as a standard mode of transportation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Commissioner of Public Works shall include pedestrian and bicycle facilities in all new street construction, street reconstruction and park projects undertaken by the County of Erie, where fiscally feasible; and be it further

RESOLVED, that if the cost is prohibited due to disproportionate use, meaning that if the cost of the bicycle or pedestrian way exceeds more than 20% of the project, that such bikeways and pathways be omitted from such projects; and be it further

RESOLVED, that if an existing right of way does not grant access for sidewalks, bike lanes or other improvements, that alternative routes be explored and provided whenever possible; and be it further

RESOLVED, that all bicycle and pedestrian walkways be planned, designed, developed and maintained in accordance with the United States Department of Transportation, the New York State Department of Transportation and other guidelines adhered to by Erie County; and be it further

ATTEST

ROBERT M. GRABER
Clerk of the Legislature of Erie County

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I HEREBY CERTIFY, *That at the 23rd Session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the Legislative Chambers, in the City of Buffalo, on the **Twentieth** day of **November, 2008 A.D.**, a Resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:*

RESOLVED, that the entire focus be on improving human health, decreasing carbon emissions, enhancing safety and increasing walking and bicycle trips as a mode of transportation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that these actions will enable Erie County to become a “Clean Streets County” with “Complete Streets” policies and a leader in New York State; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this only take place if bicyclists and pedestrians are not prohibited by law from using the facility; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we call upon our Federal and State legislators to provide incentives for local governments to adopt and implement “Complete Street” policies designed to accommodate all users; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Senators Schumer and Clinton as well as Congressional members of Western New York in addition to our Western New York delegation in Albany and Governor Patterson of New York.

REFERENCE: INTRO 17-3 (2008)

ATTEST

ROBERT M. GRABER
Clerk of the Legislature of Erie County